

WISCONSIN URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
Wednesday, July 10, 2002. 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Jeff Edgar, Chair
David Liska, Vice Chair
Richard Rideout, Executive Secretary

RSVP to Felipe Avila by 7/05/2002
Phone: 608-267-0568
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AGENDA

Location: River Falls Recreation

Address: 5401 W. Layton Ave. Greenfield, Wisconsin

Directions: From IH 894, take the 60th and Layton exit. Head south from the off ramp, to Layton. Make a left on to Layton.

RSVP to Felipe Avila by 7/05/02!!

Phone: 608 267-0568 e-mail: felipe.avila@dnr.state.wi.us

No.	Time	Presentation	Agenda Item	Action
1.	9:30	Chris Giese	Call to Order/Approve minutes	Motion
2.	9:35	Dick Rideout	Budget expenditures	Motion
3.	9:50	Jeff Edgar & Dave Liska	Transfer of the chair to Jeff Edgar from Chris Giese Introduction of new members Review of Council membership	Informational
4.	10:35	Jeff Edgar	New Chair's goals and plans for the Council	
5.	10:55	Heather Mann	Legislative Grove project Set action plan for sub-committee	Informational
6.	11:20	Bruce Allison	CARET update	Informational
7.	11:40	Ken Ottman	Governors Council on Forestry update	Informational
	12:00		Lunch	
10.	12:30	Roald Evensen	Tree City banquet update A. Committee updates/to do lists B. Speakers C. Educational component D. Award for State Legislator	Informational
11.	1:30	Dick Rideout	DNR report A. South Central vacant position update B. Urban Forestry pilot assessments C. Strategic planning completion	Update
12.	1:45	Jeff Edgar	Future meeting dates	Motion
13.	2:10		Old business, New business	
14.	2:25		Next meeting	
15.	2:30		Adjourn	

Joan Stevens will be leading a tour of Greenfield's tree planting projects after adjournment. The tour will take about half an hour.

Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council Minutes, July 10, 2002

River Falls Recreation Center
5401 W. Layton Ave.
Greenfield, WI

In attendance were 22 people

The **voting** members were: Christine Giese, Jeff Edgar, Bruce Allison, Roald Evensen, Kevin Hinkley, Ken Keeley, Gregory Lancaster, David Liska, Heather Mann, Ken Ottman, Robert Skiera, Joan Stevens and Daniel Traas

The **ex-officio, non-voting** members were: Leif Hubbard and Dick Rideout

The **non-voting guests** in attendance were: Tom Dilley, Nathan Eisner, Kim Sebastian, Rick Sulco, John Van Ells, Richard Welch and Joe Wilson

Absent voting members: Linda Barcz, Mark Dochnahl, Wayne Glowac, Laura Jull, Mike Maddox, Robert Miller and Les Werner.

1. Council Chair Christine Giese called the meeting to order at 9:45a.m. The minutes from the April 17th meeting were reviewed. Approval of the April 17th minutes was moved and seconded.
2. Dick Rideout reviewed the Council's budget expenditures through the fourth quarter of this fiscal year. Approval of the financial report was moved and seconded and the motion was passed.
3. Christine Giese adjourned her final meeting as council chair at 9:55a.m.
4. Council Chair Jeff Edgar called his first meeting to order at 10:00a.m. A speech and plaque of appreciation were presented to Christine Giese for her efforts as chair. Jeff then presented his plans and goals for the Council and asked that "members attend, share, and volunteer with the group as much as possible." Vice-Chair Dave Liska reviewed the council membership and passed leadership of the membership committee to Kevin Hinkley.
5. Heather Mann reported on the latest meeting of the Legislative Grove committee, at which many questions were raised related to the project. These issues included the tree species to be used, configuration and spacing of the trees, possible locations for the grove, maintenance needs, potential uses for the site and the timeline of the project. Further discussion is necessary to hammer out the details before the next Council meeting.

Several suggestions for the grove's location were made by Bruce Allison, including possibly incorporating the project into the future state capital landscape renovation. Comments were made on the placement protocol of trees within the grove. Dick Rideout urged that the project be developed while keeping in mind potential ways to utilize the site for promotion of urban forestry awareness.

6. Bruce Allison gave an update on recent activities of the Council for Agriculture Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET). The CARET mission statement was read and its role in improving federal funding for research faculty appointments at the university was explained. Dr. Allison then reviewed his recent experiences on capital hill where he met with congressional delegates. He also presented a list of Congressional delegation members and legislative assistants and their Washington DC addresses to the Council. Dr. Allison encouraged the Council to use this information to “Get to know our Representatives and Senators and establish a dialogue with them now...so that these relationships are established when big (urban forestry) issues develop and their support is vital.”

A discussion then followed on the altered nature of government funding in the post-September 11th political environment. Joe Wilson encouraged the members to be innovative when seeking urban forestry funding and assured the council that funds for these projects are available if applied for creatively. Jeff Edgar suggested that escalating urban forestry activities might benefit (the people) by serving as a sign of resilience and strength of character as well as providing a diversion from political uncertainties.

7. Bruce Allison polled the Council to determine its support of posting “Wisconsin’s Famous & Historic Trees” in pdf format on the DNR website. Dr. Allison stated that the conversion of the book to this electronic format could be performed for approximately \$12/page and would serve to improve public awareness of trees. He also encouraged the Council’s effort on revitalizing the Wisconsin Champion Trees program.

8. Bob Skiera presented an update on the Governor’s Council on Forestry. Mr. Skiera summarized the organization’s history and informed the Council that Ken Ottman, who has already attended one meeting of the Governor’s Council on Forestry, will be nominated to serve on that council as a representative of both urban forestry and the Southeastern region. Mr. Skiera recommended that the Council endorse Ken Ottman’s nomination to help expedite its approval. Dick Rideout will determine to whom such a letter of endorsement should be sent.

Mr. Skiera then suggested that the Council subsidize Ken Ottman’s future expenses related to his participation in the Governor’s Council on Forestry. Subsequent discussion revealed that the Governor’s Council on Forestry may already cover such expenses but that the Council should subsidize relevant expenses not covered by the Governor’s Council. Approval was motioned by Heather Mann and seconded by Roald Evensen. The motion passed.

9. Dick Rideout presented the DNR report:
 - A. The Urban Forestry Coordinator position in the South Central Region remains vacant due to the state’s hiring freeze. An request to fill the position has been filed. Dick Rideout encouraged the Council to voice it recommendation that the position be filled posthaste. Mr. Rideout will determine when and to whom such a letter of recommendation should be sent and advise the council.
 - B. An update of the Urban Forestry pilot assessments was given. Contract crews are currently working on plots in the Madison area. A summary of the geographic distribution of plots, sampling procedures and the project timeline was given.

- C. Mr. Rideout reviewed the status of the strategic planning. The plan is not yet complete but will be ready for review by the Council at its fall meeting.
 - D. Among other DNR business discussed, Dick Rideout announced that the National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) is looking for three new members. Interested individuals should talk to Dick. "The Forest Where We Live" supplement to the *Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine* is currently under revision and is set to appear in the October, 2002 issue. The Division of Forestry's 2003-2005 budget is in development. A request for two additional regional urban forestry coordinator positions is still in the proposed budget.
10. Roald Evensen presented the Tree City banquet update:
- A. The committee is still trying to finalize the speakers and educational components. Jeff Edgar mentioned several suggestions he had for keynote speakers and Roald Evensen will query several speakers to determine their interest in the role.
 - B. Kevin Hinkley discussed potential topics for the banquet's educational seminars. The DNR's Regional Urban Forestry Coordinators were polled to rate the topics they felt to be most relevant to Tree City representatives. The three highest rated topics were: 1) How communities fund urban forestry programs 2) Developing partnerships with other communities and 3) Smart growth and trees. The group informally approved these three topics though no formal motion was passed. The format of the three talks was then discussed. Several Council members thought that holding the three talks sequentially allowed for simpler logistics by requiring fewer rooms, less A/V equipment and by avoiding repetition for the speakers. Others preferred three concurrent sessions to facilitate better audience participation by reducing audience size. Roald Evensen will keep the group updated on the progress of banquet plans.
11. Jeff Edgar (Chair) then discussed the next Council meeting date and suggested that the first two meetings of 2003 be moved back one month to avoid the spring rush. The council agreed. The dates for the next meetings will be as follows
October 16, 2002 (**This has since been changed to Tuesday, October 15, 2002.**)
February 19, 2003
May 21, 2003
July 16, 2003
October 15, 2003
- Nathan Eisner will contact Fred Paasch about holding the October 16th meeting at the Millenium Grove (Lake Farm Park) in Madison.
12. There was no old business discussed.
13. One new business item was raised in further discussion of the Council's support of posting "Wisconsin's Famous & Historic Trees" in pdf format on the DNR website. Kevin Hinkley's motion to support the initiative was seconded by Roald Evensen. The motion passed. No further new business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40p.m. and was followed by a tour led by Joan Stevens.